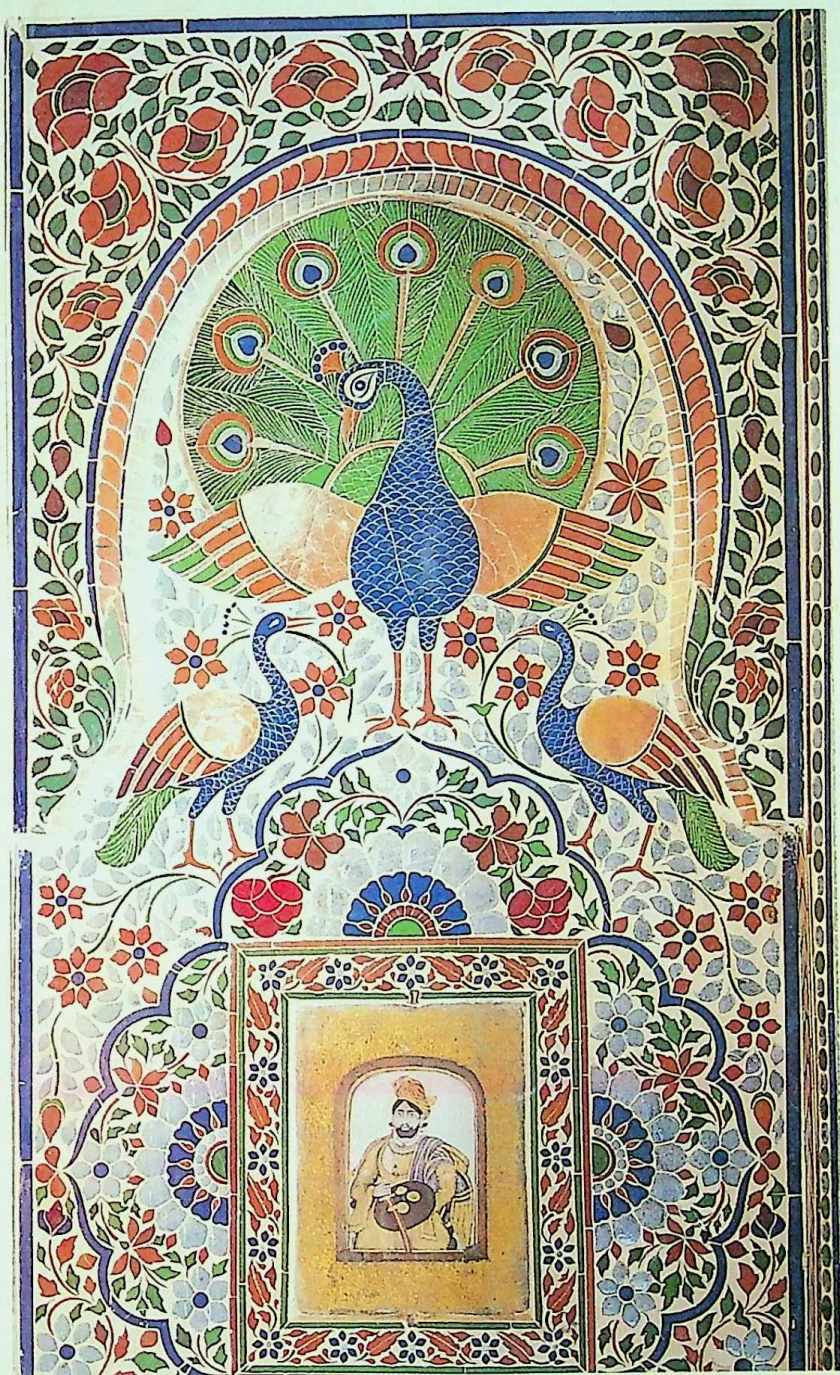


Museums & Art Galleries of Rajasthan





Cannon, Jaigarh Fort

RAJASTHAN - the land of massive forts, sprawling palaces and intricately carved temples of colourful

tribes and brave warriors, of unrivalled form of arts and crafts, unique dance and music traditions, is changing at a rapid pace.

Its vast network of Museums in large and small towns, archaeological sites and the recently opened museums and art galleries in the palaces of erstwhile rulers of old states help to preserve this great heritage for posterity. This small booklet provides a short introduction to some of these great treasure houses of this ancient land.

AJMER

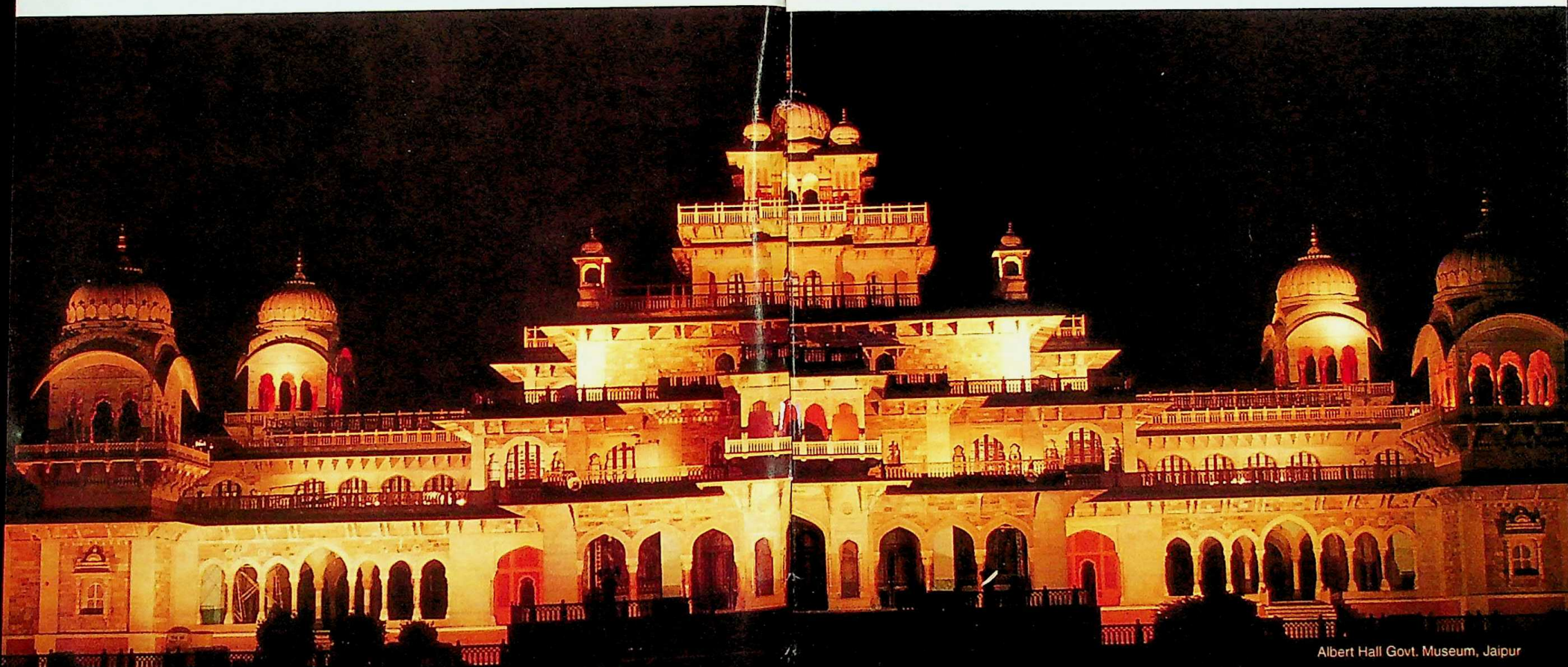
GOVERNMENT MUSEUM

Situated in the heart of the old city and close to the railway station the museum is housed in the beautiful fort and palace built by the Mughal Emperor Akbar in 1570. It was here that the British envoy Sir Thomas Roe met Emperor Jahangir in 1616. What is today commonly known as Magazine is the palace quarters where the emperors lived. After British occupation in 1818 and during the first war of Independence in 1857 it was used as the Rajputana Arsenal by the British which gave the name magazine.

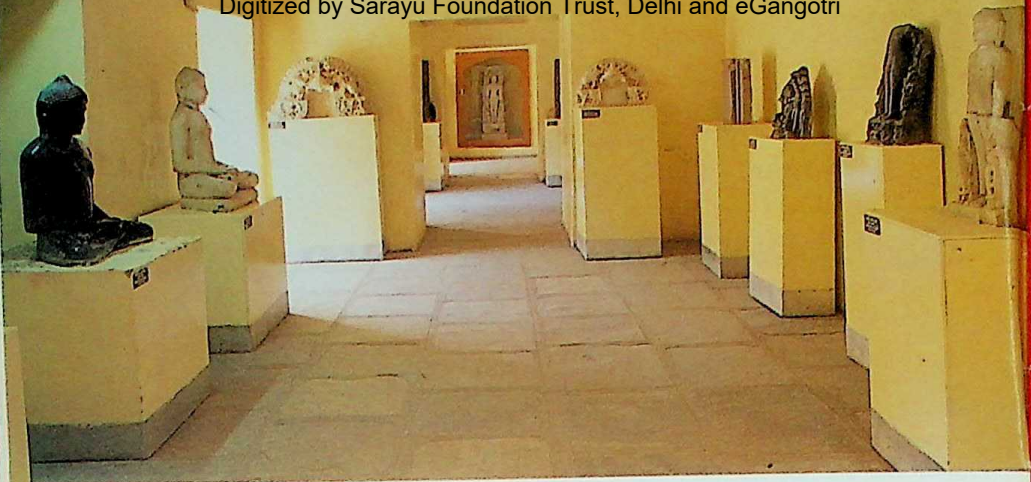
The Museum was started in 1908 by the Government of India with the object of collecting and preserving many unique objects

of antiquarian interest which were lying uncared for and scattered all over Rajasthan. The Rajputana Museum as it is significantly named, has in its galleries important exhibits from almost all the princely States. There is a library attached to this museum which contains rare books and important historical publications. The museum's main sections are devoted to Sculptures, Epigraphs, Protohistoric antiquities, Paintings, Arms and Weapons. Besides, there are objects from Adhai-din-ka-Jhonpara and other exhibits lying in various godowns forming a large reserve collection.

- (i) Sculptures constitute the most interesting section in this Museum. The collection is enormously rich and varies from periods ranging from the Gupta to the late Medieval period. Mention should be made here of the interesting Chaturmukh



Albert Hall Govt. Museum, Jaipur



Govt. Museum, Ajmer

Shivlinga, Marriage of Lord Shiva from Kaman, Lingodbhava Mahesvara from Harashnath and other fine Shiva-Parvati panels from Katara (Bharatpur) and Kusma (Sirohi). There are a number of Surya, Vishnu (including a Trimurti) Hari-Hara, Lakshmi-Narayana, Revanta, Kubera and mother & child images in the collection. Of the female divinities the Saptamatikas, Mahishasur-Mardini, Kali, Jain Saraswati and early independent icons of various mother goddesses deserve special mention. An excellent collection of sculptures from the Chauhan centre of Baghera (10th-12th century A.D.) in Ajmer district, are also preserved here. A fine collection of Tirthankara images and rare images of Gomukha Yaksha and Saraswati are also on display in the Jain gallery of this Museum. Compared with this there are only a few Buddhist objects in the Museum. The artistic genius and wonderful craftsmanship of ancient Rajasthan, are reflected in the vast collection of this Museum.

(iii) The Epigraphical exhibits which number about one hundred, are unsurpassed in many respects. Of special interest among them are :

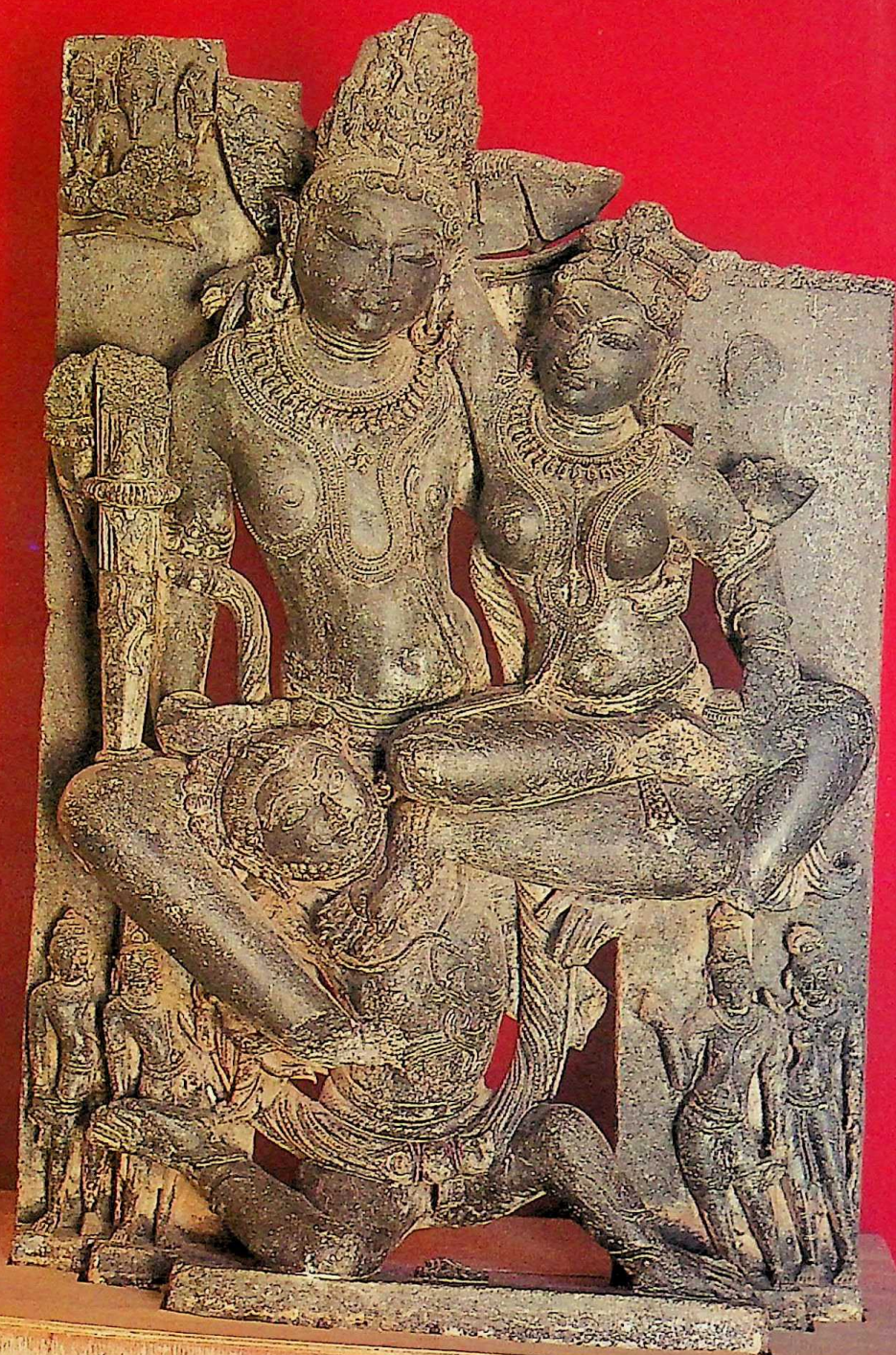
- Brahmi Inscription from Barli (assignable to circa 2nd century B.C.)
- Inscribed slab from Nagari.
- Samoli Inscription of Siladitya.

- Jodhpur Inscription of Bauka.
- Pratapgarh Inscription of Mahendrapala II.
- Two slabs inscribed with the drama Harakeli Nataka from Adhai-din-ka-Jhonpra.
- Slab containing drama Lalita Vigharaj Nataka by Somdeva also from Adhai-din-ka-Jhonpra.
- Barla inscription of Prithviraja Chauhan III.

(iii) A number of important copper plate grants add to the value of the rich collection of the museum. They include.

- Two copper plates of Maharaj Sarvanatha of Uchchhakapla (437-38 A.D. referring to Kalachuri Era).
- Daulatpura copper plate of Pratihara Bhojadeva.
- Two copper plates form Banswara (forming one grant) of the Paramar King Bhojadeva.
- Copper plate of Rana Kumbha of Mewar.

(iv) Of the early coins, there are punch marked, Sibi-Janpada, Indo-Greek, Indo-Sassanian, Kshatrapa, Kushan and Gupta coins preserved in the coin cabinet of this Museum. This also contains coins of the Rajput rulers and also of the Mughal and Pathan rulers.



- (v) Paintings section contains more than a hundred exhibits, including a dozen rare Rajasthani paintings of which a Rajput Chief, Birbal, a Muslim Prince and Farrukshyar deserve mention. These paintings (copies only) depict well known Rajput Kings.

Entry Fee : Rs. 3.00 for Adults
 : Rs. 1.00 for Students
 : Monday free
 Timing : 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
 Closed : Friday and gazetted holidays.

ALWAR

GOVERNMENT MUSEUM

Housed in the old City Palace, it has a unique collection of arms, bidri work, lacquered and ivory work, musical instruments, stuffed animals, beautiful brass and pottery works from Jaipur, Multan, Bengal and Ceylon, miniature paintings and Persian and Sanskrit manuscripts.

The museum is divided into three major sections, each housed in a big hall. The first section contains various archaeological finds chiefly sculptures and inscriptions from the



Govt. Museum, Alwar



Govt. Museum, Alwar

region. Items presented by the ruler of the former Alwar state include mounted skins of wild animals like tiger, leopard and lion shot by them during their local and foreign excursions.

The second section is the most important one as it contains various manuscripts in Persian including Gulistan of S'adi as well as marvellous paintings of Mughal and Rajput Schools. The paintings have been further divided into various sub-styles.

The third section of the museum contains the armoury of State rulers. Various kinds of shields, swords, pistols, rifles, daggers and other items are on display.

Entry Fee : Rs 3.00 for Adults
 : Rs. 1.00 for Students
 : Monday free
 Timing : 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
 Closed : Friday and gazetted holidays.

AMER (JAIPUR)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

Located in the Dil-e-Aaram Gardens, of Amer, the ancient capital of Jaipur, and established in

1949. Prior to this, the excavated material from Rairh, Bairat, Sambhar, Nagar etc. and the sculptures and epigraphs collected from various sites in the erstwhile Jaipur State were housed at Vidyadhar Gardens in Purana Ghat. In July 1949 the entire collection was transferred to Dil-e-Aaram Garden, a part of the old palace at Amer. An Art Gallery was inaugurated in 1992 in this complex.

The museum is divided into three sections :

- (i) Archaeological section, which contains material recovered from excavations at Rairh, Bairat, Sambhar, Nagar, Pamvar, Bansi and Virat Nagar.
- (ii) Sculpture section.
- (iii) Epigraphy section.

There are two Yupa Pillars (sacrificial posts) with inscriptions from Barnala; Pratihara sculptures from Abhaneri (8th century A.D.) and Terracotta from Rairh, Bairat, Sambhar and Nagar belonging to an early historical period. The material is arranged in chronological sequence,



Sculptures, Amer Museum

making the visitor familiar with the contribution of Rajasthan in various fields of art through the ages.

- Entry : Free
Open : Daily between 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM.
Closed : On Friday and gazetted holidays.

BAIRAT

VIRAT NAGAR MUSEUM

Virat Nagar was the capital of the legendary



Weapon Collection, Govt. Museum, Bharatpur

Matsyadesh. Frequent references of Matsyadesh have been made in the Indian epic - the Mahabharat. In the epic period, the area around the district of Jaipur, Alwar and Bharatpur came to be known as Matsyadesh with Virat Nagar as its capital.

The museum, although not very large has the richest collection. The excavated material like potteries, pickins old coins, seals, metallic pieces, weapons and statues have been exhibited here.

- Entry Fee : Rs. 3.00 for Adults
: Rs. 1.00 for Students
: Monday free
Timing : 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
Closed : Friday and gazetted holidays.

BHARATPUR

GOVERNMENT MUSEUM

Located in the centre of the famous Lohagarh Fort, the Bharatpur Museum houses a rich collection of archaeological wealth of the nearby areas as well as from the old Bharatpur State. The huge palatial building Kachahari Kalan, once the administrative block of the rulers of Bharatpur state, was converted into a Museum in 1944 AD. Later on, the Kamra Khas (personal chamber) building on the first floor was added to the museum.

It exhibits sculptures found during the excavation of old villages e.g. Noh, Mallah, Bareh, Bayana etc. ranging from the Kushan

period (1st century A.D.) to 19th century A.D. Weapons used in battles in the medieval period by the Jat rulers, paintings, manuscripts, zoological specimens, local art and craft and carvings on sandal wood and ivory etc. offer a glimpse into the glory that was once Bharatpur.

The Art Gallery of the museum has specimens of miniature paintings on leaves of the peepal tree, mica and old lithopapers alongwith the paintings of the Maharajas of Bharatpur.

On the upper story one section consists of various types of guns & miniature canons used during 18th century A.D. called 'Chaddre'. These miniature canons - two sets of eleven each, were used by Maharaja Sawai Jawahar Singh in the battle while passing through the Jaipur territory on his return from a pilgrimage to Pushkar.

The whole museum has been divided into the following sections :

1. Archaeology
2. Armoury
3. Arts, Crafts and Industry
4. Children Gallery



Painting, Bikaner Museum

5. Miscellaneous

Entry Fee	: Rs. 3.00 for Adults
	: Rs. 1.00 for Students
	: Monday free
Timing	: 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
Closed	: Friday and gazetted holidays.

BIKANER

FORT MUSEUM, JUNAGARH FORT

Ganga Mahal, the imposing halls added by



Junagarh Fort Museum, Bikaner

Maharaja Ganga Singh, now houses the Fort Museum. It contains a fine collection of antique Rajput weaponry, jade handle daggers, camel hide *dhals* (shields) and inlaid handguns and camel guns. Gold and silver howdahs, jhulas, palkis and a first world war biplane are on view. Other important objects include a pair of drums belonging to Jambhoji, the saint who predicted the foundation of the dynasty by Rao Bika for 450 years. Photographs and items of personal use by Maharaja Ganga Singh and miniatures are also on view.

Entry Fee	: Rs. 10.00 Indian
	: Rs. 50.00 Foreigners
	: Rs. 5.00 Students
Camera	: Rs. 25.00
Video	: Rs. 100.00
Camera	
Timing	: 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
Closed	: All gazetted holidays

GANGA GOLDEN JUBILEE MUSEUM

Established near the Lalgarh Palace in 1937 on the eve of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Maharaja Ganga Singh this Museum now run by the Government of Rajasthan, was shifted to a new building in the Civil Lines in 1954. Some principal sections of the museum are :

- Maharaja Ganga Singh Memorial
- Local Arts and Crafts
- History
- Sculpture, Terracotta and Bronzes.
- Armoury
- Miniature Paintings and Folk-Arts
- Dr. L.P. Tessitori Memorial Section.
- Lithoprints of the British Interpretation of the war of Independence 1857.

Furcal (Silk robe) of Prince Salim 1596 A.D.

The *Furcal* was presented by Crown Prince Salim (Emperor Jahangir) to Raja Rai Singh of Bikaner, one of his closest officials.

Historical Mughal Farmans

The history of Bikaner contains a colourful record of war adventures. More than half a dozen rulers lost their lives while participating in the Imperial campaigns of the Mughals.



Ganga Golden Jubilee Museum, Bikaner

Various *Farmans* bearing original Imperial seals, issued by the Emperors - Jahangir, Shah Jahan, Aurangzeb and Shah Alam, are preserved in this museum.

Paintings

An exquisite collection of Rajasthani miniatures of almost all the sub-schools of Rajasthan such as Bikaner, Bundi, Mewar; Jaipur, Jodhpur etc. are on view here.

Terracotta

The museum has one of the finest collections of early terracotta art, in the country. These belong to the early Gupta period and were discovered in 1917 by Dr. L.P. Tessitori from the ancient Theris of Rang Mahal, Badopal, Pir Sultan-Ki-Theri located between Suratgarh and Hanumangarh of the old Bikaner state. The existence of these Theris can be traced back to the Indus civilisation. Some of these sites including Kalibangan are considered the oldest in India. It was in this area that the sacred river Saraswati is believed to have existed.

Sculptures

The sculpture of Jain Saraswati (11th-12th Century) is a unique piece of marble of four feet eight inches in height. Discovered from the village Pallu (Ganganagar) it is a peerless example of medieval Indian sculpture. Nartaki (10th-11th Century) is a beautiful one foot high bronze image, discovered from a large sand-dune of village Amarsar in Tehsil Sujangarh (Churu).

Lacquer Work

The Museum has a fine collection of superb lacquered works a craft special to Bikaner entirely done by the artisans, called Ustas (Ustaads), on wood, metal, glass, stone, leather and ostrich egg shells.

Wood and Stone Carvings

Bikaner stands almost unsurpassed in wood and stone carvings. A teak wood table and a wooden casket, a model of the Gajner Palace (Bikaner), a typical ikka (horse drawn cart) and Chariot with minutest detail are on view in the museum.



Lacquered Kuppi

Entry Fee : Rs. 3.00

Open : Daily between 10.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M.

Closed : Friday and gazetted holidays.

SHRI SARDUL MUSEUM AND ANUP LIBRARY, LALLGARH PALACE

Fort of the early 20th century Lallgarh Palace have been converted as a Museum containing a large number of items used and collected by Maharaja Ganga Singh and his successors. Old photographs, trophies, shikar objects early cameras and movie projectors and weapons used by Maharaja Karni Singh the great sportsman are on view here.

The Anup Library contains an extremely rare and valuable collection of Sanskrit manuscripts brought back from the Deccan by Raja Anup Singh in the 17th century.

CHITTAURGARH

FATEH PRAKASH PALACE MUSEUM

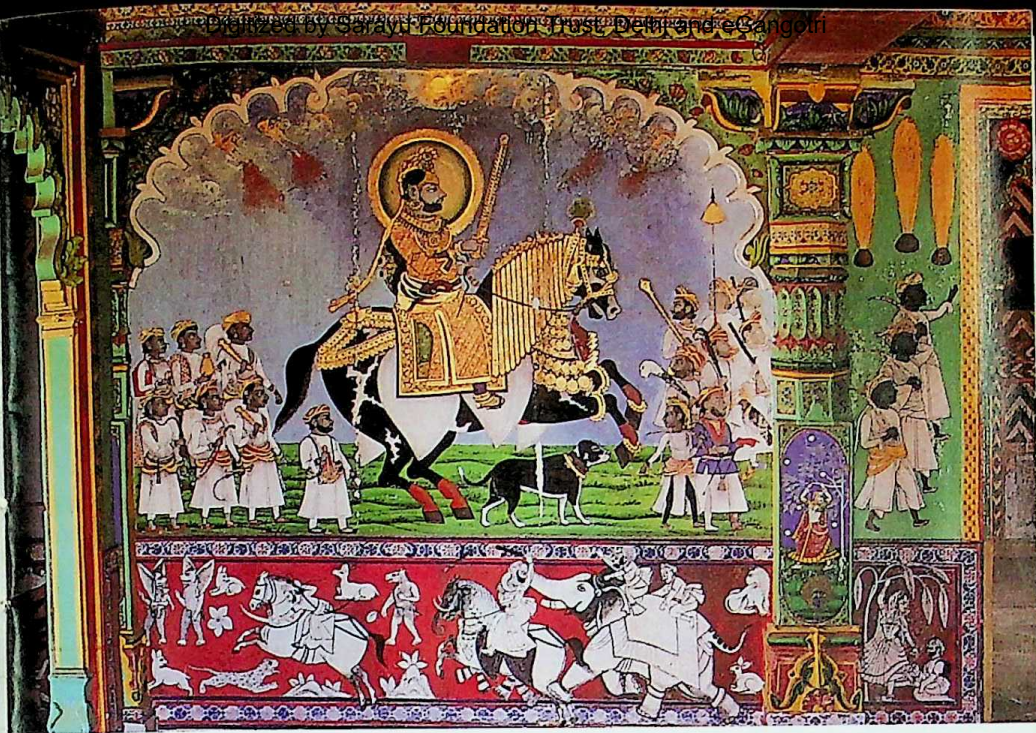
Inside the historical Chittaurgarh Fort, one big portion of Fateh Prakash Palace was converted into a museum in the year 1968.

It has a great collection of sculptures. Among the important ones are Ganpati (8th-9th century) from Pangarh : Indra and Jain Ambica statues from Rashmi village of post medieval period.

The section devoted to weapons, daggers, armoury consists of old shields, helmets, axes, farsa, knives and soldiers' uniforms. The clay models of local tribes with their traditional outfits have also been displayed in a room. The



Indra Statue, Fateh Prakash Palace Museum, Chittaurgarh



Painting, Juna Mahal, Dungarpur

entire palatial museum has been divided in various sections like Archaeology, Coins, Art Gallery, Wood Crafts of Bassi village, Weapons and Tribal Life.

Entry Fee : Rs. 3.00 for Adults
 : Rs. 1.00 for Students
 : Monday free
 Timing : 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
 Closed : Friday and gazetted holidays.

DUNGARPUR

DUNGARPUR MUSEUM

A newly constructed museum named "Rajmata Devendra Kunwar State Museum and Cultural Centre, Dungarpur" was opened to the public in 1988.

The sculpture gallery of the museum throws light on the history of Vagad Pradesh that was spread over the present areas of Dungarpur, Banswara and tehsil Kherwara of Udaipur district.



Statue, Dungarpur Museum

The prominent sculptural specimens are Mahisasur- Mardini (16th-17 century A.D.); Vinadhar Shiva in black stone (6th-7th century A.D.); Kumari, a female figure (6th-7th century A.D.) discovered from Aamjhara, a beautiful image of Gajlaxmi (17th - 18th century A.D.) and Navgraha in a single stone piece (11th-12th century A.D.).

The museum also has a panel of portraits of the erstwhile Maharajas of Dungarpur State and photographs of palaces, temples and monuments from the many phases of the land's history.

Entry Fee : Rs. 3.00 for Adults
 : Rs. 1.00 for Students
 : Monday free
 Timing : 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
 Closed : Friday and gazetted holidays.

JAIPUR

GOVERNMENT CENTRAL MUSEUM (ALBERT HALL)

Located in the centre of the sprawling Ram Niwas Bagh, this is the oldest Museum in the State. The building was designed by Colonel Sir Swinton Jacob. It was built in 1876 when King Edward VII visited India as the Prince of Wales. It was opened to public in 1886.

The various sections represented in the museum are :

(i) Art and Industry (Metal, Wood and Pottery); (ii) Armoury; (iii) Textiles ; (iv) Carpets ; (v) Paintings; (vi) Geology; (vii) Zoology; (viii) Botany and (ix) Toys & Dolls. There is a Persian garden carpet of a fabulous cost obtained by Mirza Raja Jai Singh I from Shah Abbas of Persia. It contains various sketches of a Persian garden with running water streams.

There is also an Egyptian mummy belonging to the Ptolemaic Epoch. There are miniature paintings of various sub-schools of Rajasthan. A glimpse of the land and the people of Rajasthan is presented through well planned dioramas.

From 1959 onwards the various galleries along the ground floor of the museum were

completely reorganised and renovated. People of Rajasthan, (both males and females) from the higher strata of society, such as Rajputs and Seths as well as the common tribal people like Meenas, Bhopas, Bhils, Gadoliya Lohars etc. find depiction here in their typical dresses and ornaments.

Typical designs and motifs in Mehndi Mandana, so characteristic of Rajasthani ladies, are also highlighted in the gallery. In the antechamber of the wing is exhibited puppetry from Rajasthan and the painted scroll delineating the scenes from Pabuji Rathore's life, a great folk-hero from Marwar.

The central gallery is devoted to Rajasthani music and dance. Original musical instruments, both classical and folk, are displayed in their functional positions. Specimens include typical folk instruments like Masak, Kamayacha, Dadh, Madal, Khanjari, Sitari, Bankia, Pungi, Algoja, Iktara etc.

The dances illustrated in the gallery include classical ones like Kathak, for which Jaipur Gharana is famous, as well as popular folk dances such as Dandia, Ghoomar, Holi etc. Festivals (like Holi, Gangaur etc.) and ceremonies (like marriage) are also dioramed in a lively manner. The museum functions as the State Museum of Rajasthan.

Entry Fee : Rs. 3.00 for Adults
 : Rs. 1.00 for Students
 Timing : 10.00 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
 Closed : Friday and gazetted holidays

MODERN ART GALLERY, RAVINDRA MANCH, RAM NIWAS BAGH

A small gallery in the first floor of the Ravindra Manch Auditorium shows a selection of works by the well known modern artists and sculptors of Rajasthan.

Entry Fee : Free
 Timing : 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
 Closed : Friday and gazetted holidays.

MUSEUM OF INDOLOGY

Created and established by Acharya Ram Charan Sharma 'Vyakul' in 1960, the museum has a collection of Folk and Tantra art. The eighteen sections of this three storeyed private museum include old manuscripts and archives, thematic folk art of India, Indian textile designs, Tantrik paintings and yantras, glass and pottery items, minerals, gems and fossils etc. making it one of the finest museums of Rajasthan.

Entry Fee : Rs. 35.00 per person
: Rs. 10.00 if a group of ten or more

Timing : 10 AM to 5 PM

Closed : Open on all days of the week

HAWA MAHAL MUSEUM

Just behind the beautiful Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds) in the adjoining Partap Mandir, a museum was set up in the year 1983. Preserved here is the sculptural heritage collected from Ganeshwar, Virat Nagar, Raid, Sambhar and



Museum of Indology, Jaipur

Nagar. Exhibits include items of terracotta, antiquities, fish hooks, arrow heads, swords, helmets and belongings of the Maharajas of Jaipur. A big storage vessel of 2nd century A.D. obtained during excavation at Naliasar (Sambhar) draws the attention of visitors.



Painting. Museum of Indology, Jaipur

Entry Fee	: Rs. 3.00 for Adults
	: Rs. 1.00 for Students
	: Monday free
Timing	: 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
Closed	: Friday and gazetted holidays.

MAHARAJA SAWAI MAN SINGH (II) MUSEUM

Located within the City Palace complex and nestled amidst old buildings, temples and the palace quarters, this museum was founded in 1959 by Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II. The exhibits consist of the ancestral collections built up by the successive rulers of Amer and Jaipur, and is presently run by a public charitable trust. A small selection of paintings, manuscripts, weapons and armours was displayed in the Pothikhana (library) and the Silekhana or armoury (both of these in their present form, were established in 1952) of the palace.



सुवर्ण

Sculpture, Hawa Mahal Museum



Maharaja Sawai Man Singh (II)

However, the collection remained exclusive and was shown only to selective visitors and dignitaries with the special permission of the Maharaja. In 1959, this private museum consisting of the Pothikhana and the Silekhana was thrown open to public and a new Textile and Costume gallery was added to it.

The Art Gallery is housed in the Diwan-i-Aam constructed for holding important State functions. A variety of objects-miniature paintings, illustrated manuscripts, decorated bookcovers, palm-leaf and Sanchipat manuscripts, old printed books, gigantic Mughal carpets, gold and silver Takhi-e-Rawan (movable throne), covered Ambabadis and open Howdahs, palanquins and carriages with richly embroidered velvet coverings are displayed in this gallery. The museum has a splendid collection of miniature paintings including two unique and priceless manuscripts of the Persian translation of the two Hindu epics, the Ramayana and the Mahabharata. The latter work, specially made for the use of Emperor Akbar, known as the Razmnama, contains illustrations made by the greatest Mughal painters and is reported to have cost seventy two thousand gold mohurs in 1584-85 A.D. Besides the finest miniatures of Amer-Jaipur school, evident in the illustrations of the Ragamala, Bhagavata Purana, Devi Mahatmya etc., good examples of early and later Mughal schools, Deccanese schools and fair specimens from Bikaner, Malwa, Bundi, Kota, Jodhpur, Kishangarh etc., are also represented. A fine collection of astronomical books in Arabic,

Persian, Latin and Sanskrit acquired by Sawai Jai Singh for study of the planets and their movements, an old copy of the *Ain-i-Akbari* and its Hindi translation made in 1797 A.D. and a rare manuscript on 146 foms of Saligram, Surdas' Padavali (contemporary copy) and the earliest copy of Bihari's Satsai are also on display. This manuscript collection consists of nearly 16,000 volumes.

There are rare bird and animal studies by Ustad Mansur, court scenes, battle scenes, portraits and mythological paintings by famous Mughal painters. Important examples of the Jaipur school consisting of life size portrait-studies of the Maharajas by Sahib Ram and the leading painters of the courts of Maharaja Ishwari Singh, Madho Singh I, Pratap Singh and Jagat Singh have been displayed in the gallery. The large carpets displayed against the eastern and western walls of the art gallery were manufactured in the Mughal carpet factories at Agra and Lahore during the reign of Emperor Shah Jahan. These are said to have been collected by Mirza Raja Jai Singh to decorate some of his newly built palaces at Amer.

Attention should be drawn here to the large Kishangarh masterpieces of Raja Sawant Singh and Bani Thani personified as Krishna and Radha and to a set of large cloth paintings from Hyderabad and Jaipur. Other objects on display in this section include book covers, paper cuttings, postage stamps and coins of the old Jaipur State, old photographs and negatives, old furniture, glassware and other decorative objects of art.

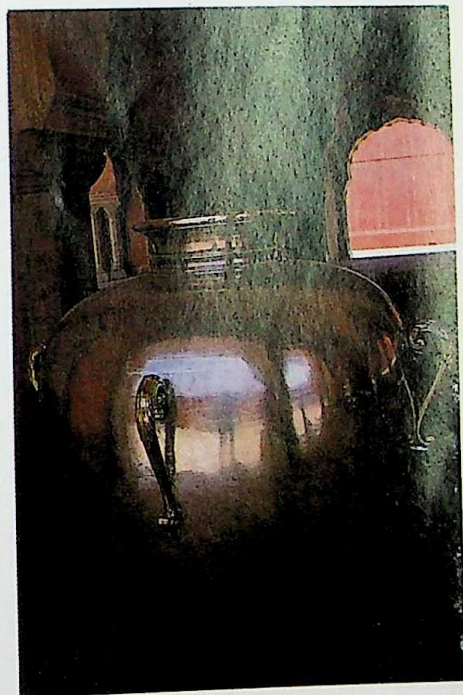
The Silekhana or the Armoury of the museum is housed in a beautifully decorated suite of rooms. It has one of the largest and finest collections of edged weapons and antique handguns in the country. The edged weapons include Swords, curved Persian Unnas, slightly curved Mughal Shamshers, Talwars, double-edged Khandas, pointed Gupitis and Asas, dagger-broad Jamdhars, curved Jamkhas, long and narrow katars, hiltless Jhanbwars and Chhuris, Lances, Axes, Knives and Arrows of various shapes and sizes.

Some of the swords are of great historical importance; there are two Talwars (swords) and

a few with the names of Persian Emperors and Mughal Generals engraved on them, and many personal weapons of Maharaja Ram Singh, Madho Singh II etc.

Besides these, there is a fine collection of beautiful gunpowder flasks (*Kuppis*) made of horn, ivory, leather and sea-shell, inlaid with delicately carved ivory of mother of pearl and decorated with embroidered motifs. Shields made of tough crocodile, rhinoceros, antler and buffalo hide, embossed, lacquered or painted and set with boxes of chiselled steel gilt or studded with precious stones. Fire-arms of all descriptions, imported from Europe or made in Jaipur, or other parts of India, are of considerable interest.

The Textile and Costume section has a fine collection of the fine loom-woven and embroidered Kashmir shawls, **Kimkhab**s (brocades) from Surat, Banaras and Aurangabad, the large variety of hand block



Silver Vessel, City Palace

prints from Sanganer and other localities, the **Bandhej** (tie and dye) pieces from Jaipur, Muslins from Dhaka, old embroidered rugs and tent-hangings, delicately embroidered and applique rosary-bags, caps, **Rath** (a type of carriage) covers, **Thal-Poshes** (dish covers) royal paraphernalia, exquisitely embroidered costumes worn by the different Maharajas and their consorts, typical Rajasthani costumes used over the ages and delicate **Zari** (gold thread) and **Gota** (gold or silver frill) works, for which Jaipur has always been very famous.

The most noteworthy exhibit is perhaps the unusually large brocaded **Jama** (a robe) and pyjama of Maharaja Madho Singh I. The Maharaja was no doubt of gigantic physical proportions. There is an equally large white muslin pleated **Jama** and a huge silk covered **Atamsukh** worn by him, which is on display in the museum.

A very rare gold brocaded velvet throne carpet bearing seal marks and notes dating back to 1605 A.D., two richly embroidered window curtains belonging to the mid-seventeenth century and a finely woven gold and silk circular **Thal-Posh** (dish cover) also belonging to the seventeenth century are worthy of mention.

It is obvious that such a large collection of antiquities cannot be put on regular public display but attempts are being made to exhibit more items of historical and topical interest and artistic merit like old **Baggis**, **Rathas** and **Palanquins**; old utensils, ritual objects, old furniture and tents etc. in order to give the visitors a good idea of the rich cultural heritage of Jaipur.

- Entry Fee : Rs. 35.00 Indians
 : Rs. 70.00 Foreigners
 : Rs. 20.00 for Students
 : Rs. 50.00 for Still Camera
 : Rs. 100 for Video Camera
 Timing : 9.30 A.M. to 4.45 P.M.

JAISALMER

FOLKLORE MUSEUM

For anyone interested in seeing the culture of Jaisalmer on display through the ages, the Lok Sanskritik Sangrahalaya or the Museum of Folk Culture situated on the bank of Gadsisar lake in Mehar Bagh Garden is a must. This museum was established in 1984 by N.K. Sharma, a local connoisseur.

This well organised museum is divided into six sections and has a rich collection of paintings, photographs, costumes, hairstyles and jewellery, utility articles of rural life, camel and horse decorations, fossils, ornamental arches, as well as articles connected with folk and cultural lifestyles.

Entry Fee : Rs. 5.00

Open : Daily between 8.00 AM to 6.00 PM

: Open on all days of the week.

GOVERNMENT MUSEUM

The Government Museum in Jaisalmer is situated on Police Line Road near Moomal Hotel. It was opened in 1984.

The large collection of wood and marine fossils in the museum gives an insight into the geological past of the area. The sculpture from the ancient townships of Kiradu and Lodurva dating back to the 12th century pulsate with youth and grace and depict the artistic skill of the time.



Folklore Museum, Jaisalmer

A glass case exhibits the Great Indian Bustard and Tilor which are birds of the desert.

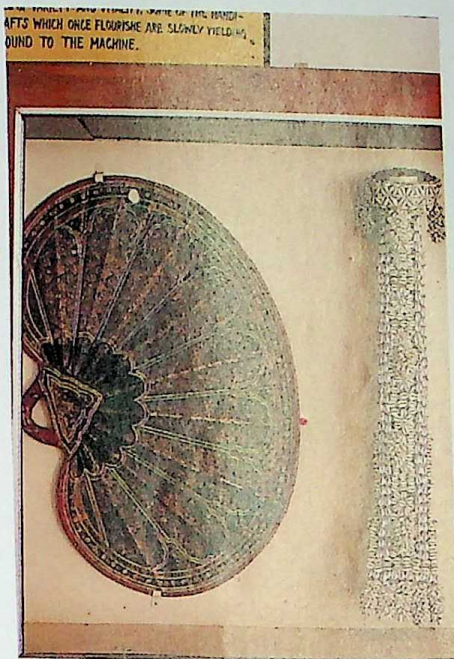
Entry Fee : Rs. 3.00 for Adults
 : Rs. 1.00 for Students
 : Monday free
Timing : 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
Closed : Friday and gazetted holidays.

JHALAWAR

GOVERNMENT MUSEUM

Situated in the old Garh Palace near the Bhawani Natya Shala is the Government Museum.

The sculptures and architectural fragments of the 8th century city of Chandravati and sculptures and epigraphs from Jhalrapatan region fill its galleries. There are many paintings



Govt. Museum, Jaisalmer



Folklore Museum, Jaisalmer



Interior, Govt. Museum, Jodhpur



Palanquin, Mehrangarh Fort Museum, Jodhpur



Jhula, Govt. Museum, Jodhpur

and manuscripts and various other artefacts from the area.

Entry : Rs. 3.00 for Adults
 : Rs. 1.00 for Students
 Timing : 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
 Closed : Friday & gazetted holidays

JODHPUR

GOVERNMENT MUSEUM

Located in the Umaid gardens on High Court Road, it has a large and fairly interesting collection. There are many stuffed animals, including a number of desert birds in two glass cases, each with a thorn bush. The military section includes cumbersome wooden biplane models and an extraordinary brass battleship.

Entry Fee : Rs. 3.00 for Adults
 : Rs. 1.00 for Students
 : Monday free
 Timing : 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
 Closed : Friday and gazetted holidays

MEHRANGARH FORT MUSEUM

This is an excellent museum with rare and interesting artefacts, textiles, painting transport items etc. laid out with utmost care and thought. The Palanquin Gallery and Howdah Gallery display a superb collection of old and costly specimens of great historical value.

The armoury section showing one of the finest collection of old weapons and arms is housed in Maan Vilas where as the paintings are displayed in the Umaid Vilas. Similarly, the



Umaid Bhawan Palace Museum, Jodhpur

Takht Mahal, the Phool Mahal, Moti Mahal and Jhanki Mahal in the sprawling palace complex show numerous objects of great artistic and historic value.

Entry Fee	: Rs. 10.00 Indian
	: Rs. 50.00 foreigners
Timing	: 10 AM to 5 PM
Closed	: Open on all days of the week

UMAID BHAWAN PALACE MUSEUM

Recently the ruling family of Jodhpur has converted a part of the gigantic Umaid Bhawan Palace as a palace museum. The items on display include rare collection of clocks and

watches, fine china, ornate mirrored furniture, glass and crystal ware, photographs etc.

The visitor gets access to the grounds and parts of the Umaid Bhawan, one of the largest private residences in the world.

Entry Fee	: Rs. 10 Indians
	: Rs. 50 Foreigners
	: Rs. 5.00 Students
Timing	: 9.30 AM to 5 PM

GOVERNMENT MUSEUM, MANDOR

About 8 kms from Jodhpur, Mandor was the capital of Marwar. This enchanting place having beautifully carved cenotaphs, hall of heroes, palaces and an old fort, is of immense historical importance. The Janana Mahal, which was built for the use of royal ladies by Maharaja Ajit Singh (1671-1724 AD) in Mandor Garden, has been developed as a museum.

The Natural History section has an African Bison and a crocodile of 11 feet. The long Art Gallery exhibits large paintings of Maharajas of Jodhpur and events in their lives. There is a complete section of miniature paintings on Raga-Raganis.

The museum also has sculptures of gods and goddesses, mentionable among them being the statue of the **Dancer** (12th century A.D.) and carving of **Krishanleela** on one big stone found from Kiradu.

The carving in *Devals, Dalan, Chattris* and *Ek Thamba* tower make the Mandor museum an example of excellent architecture.

Entry Fee	: Rs. 3.00 for Adults
	: Rs. 1.00 for Students
	: Monday free
Timing	: 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
Closed	: Friday and gazetted holidays.

KOTA

GOVERNMENT MUSEUM

Originally located in the Hawa Mahal just above the entrance of the fort it has now been shifted to the Brij Vilas Palace and has a new display and decor.



Painting, Govt. Museum, Mandor

Archaeological Section

Sculpture : The museum possesses several hundred sculptures from different cultural centres of the region. Generally, the sculptures belong to the period from the 8th to the 12th century A.D. though early specimens of the Gupta period (4th to 5th century A.D.) can also be seen. Sculptures worth mentioning are Shesh Sayi Vishnu from Badoli (Chittaurgarh), Jain image of Vardhaman from Baran and a dancing pair from Ramgarh.

Inscription : A few inscriptions are displayed in the museum. Yupa pillars from Badwa are very important specimens of 3rd century A.D. showing the popularity of Vedic rites.

Coins: Coins discovered from various sites of Kota region are preserved and displayed in the numismatic section. Most of the coins belong to the Mughal period and a few of them to the Rajput period.

Painting Section

Several miniature paintings of Bundi, Kota, Nathdwara and Jaipur schools are preserved in the museum. Paintings of Shrimad Bhagawata of the early 17th century are most attractive from the point of view of workmanship.

Manuscript Section

This section contains a number of manuscripts in Sanskrit. They include Vedic, Astronomical and Astrological works. Some Hindi manuscripts are also preserved. The Gita and the Bhagawata written in the minutest letters on paper scroll are worth mentioning from the calligraphic point of view.

Local Arts & Crafts of Hadoti Region

Arms, several kinds of handicrafts, costumes, etc. are also displayed in this section. A panoramic view of the cultural aspects of Kota region is available in this section through photographs, charts, maps etc.

Entry Fee : Rs. 3.00 for Adults
: Rs. 1.00 for Students
: Monday free
Timing : 10 A.M. to

4.30 P.M.

Closed : Friday and gazetted holidays.

RAO MADHO SINGH TRUST MUSEUM, GARH PALACE

The old 17th century Kota Fort Palace is a vast complex of buildings, halls, temples and courtyards altered and added from time to time by different rulers. Many of these contain beautiful frescoes and elaborate glass and mirror work.

A considerable part of the family treasures have been preserved in the Raj Mahal. These include a fine collection of weapons, miniatures, royal paraphernalia furniture, photographs etc. The upper galleries Laksh Bhandar, Arjun Mahal Chhatrai Mahal and Baka Mahal contain some of the finest mural paintings of Kota school.

Entry Fee : Rs. 3.00 for Adults
: Rs. 1.00 for Students
Timing : 9.30 AM to 4.30 PM.
Closed : Sunday & all gazetted holidays.

MOUNT ABU

GOVERNMENT MUSEUM

The only hill station in western and central India - Mount Abu has been a centre of cultural activity since the pre-historic period. It was the capital of the Parmars in 13th century AD and later on came under the Chauhans.



Jain Bronzes, Govt. Museum, Mount Abu

The museum was set up in 1962 within the premises of Raj Bhawan to preserve the archeological wealth of the region.

The first section has been adorned by a diorama of local tribal hut with their usual living style by adding a gallery of weapons, musical instruments, ladies ornaments like *barly*, *damani*, *karna*, *guthma toda*, *gaga wala thoomar*, *kanksi berla*, various type of earrings and garments etc. belonging to hill dwellers.

The second section has a series of miniature paintings based on *raga-ragnis*, Jain images from Sirohi, medium sized shields, a small canon called 'Topdi' and some pieces of carvings on local wood.

The notable collection of this museum, is the finely carved out statues of *Devdasi* or *Nartakis* (Dancer) ranging from 6th century A.D. to 12th century A.D. procured from an ancient township called Chandravati, 7 kms away from Abu. There is an image of the *Chakrabahu Shiva* having a *trishul* in one hand and a *khadag* in the other and sitting on *Nandi*, the bull. On each side of Shiva are dancing girls.

In the Abu collection consisting of 404 sculptures, the most distinctive exhibit is the *Vish Kanya* (snake goddess) which is 3 feet high. It is shown breast-feeding a snake. The figures are well executed and the attitudes are impressive and natural. It also has the *Surya* (8th century A.D.) found in Achalgarh, the *Shiva* (10th century A.D.) brought from Dilwara temple. The *Chanvar Vahini* and *Laxmi* (12th century A.D.) also from Chandravati and the *Chanmunda* (8th century A.D.).

The Sculpture Gallery has some memorial inscriptions collected from nearby areas e.g. *Chapa's inscription*, (local heroine of Achalgarh).

Entry Fee : Rs. 3.00 for Adults
: Rs. 1.00 for Students
: Monday free
Timing : 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
Closed : Friday and gazetted holidays.

PALI

SHRI BANGAR GOVERNMENT MUSEUM

The Pali region and the course of the desert river Luni and its tributaries form a part of the

ancient kingdoms of Godwar and Marwar. The contribution of this region to the realm of art and architecture is substantial both qualitatively as well as quantitatively.

The museum provides a glimpse into the rich culture through its various stages of evolution, from the past to the present time. The displays inside the museum are -

Sculptures from : Neemaj, Nadol, Bali, Balbana, Auwa, Hemawa, Bhinmal (Jalor)
Coins from : Ranakpur **Terracottas from :** Nadol
Copper Plates from : Bamnera, Nadol **Wood Works from :** Bagri, Sojat **Stone Work from :** Raipur **Inscriptions from :** Pali, Nadol, Beethoo, Auwa, Bijapur **Folk Costumes Ornaments and Musical Instruments from :** Bhimana **Special attractions :** Observatory instruments and statues found from Pali and Bali. The large statue of *Thanak Vishnu* (6th Century A.D.) found from Hemawas (Pali)

Entry Fee : Rs. 3.00 for Adults
: Rs. 1.00 for Students
: Monday free
Timing : 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
Closed : Friday and gazetted holidays.

PILANI

BIRLA MUSEUM OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

At Pilani, in the Campus of Vidya Vihar is located the Birla Museum of Science and Technology. The museum contains the latest science equipment, models of material science and illustrative diorama, working models, charts & photographs explaining the principles of the sciences. It also throws light on the various aspects of engineering science. Sharda Peeth marble temple dedicated to Saraswati, the goddess of learning is also worth a visit.

TONK

ARABIC AND PERSIAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Tonk was the only princely state in Rajasthan ruled by the Muslims. There is a research institute in Tonk which has Arabic, Persian and Urdu manuscripts and a rare collection of literature from India, Iran & Arabian countries.

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Miniature Painting, Udaipur

Unpublished handwritten books and manuscripts, largely poetry by Muslim poets can be seen by tourists in the collection kept with the institute.

Mughal literature and rare books can be seen here. The Institute also supports study courses and research projects.

UDAIPUR

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM, AHAR

The museum at Ahar has a varied collection of findings from excavations at the mound of Dhulkot. It is believed to be the site of a 4,000 year old township. The major exhibits of the museum are the **skin scrubber** (1st century B.C.) **seals** (1st century B.C.) **grain pot** (1st century B.C.) animal figures stone weights and balls. Some beautiful Hindu and Jain icons are displayed in one gallery, the most prominent being the metallic image of the Jain *Tirthankara* (saint). Among the collection of sculptures, there is a statue of **Vishnu-Nag-Nathan** belonging to the medieval period in which snakes are entwined all around the deity.

Entry Fee : Rs. 3.00 for Adults
: Rs. 1.00 for Students
Timing : 10 AM to 4.30 PM
Closed : Friday & gazetted holidays.

CITY PALACE MUSEUM

The huge City Palace, towering over the Pichola lake, is the largest palace complex in Rajasthan. Construction of this palace was



Victoria Hall Model, Govt. Museum, Udaipur



First Century Pot, Ahar Museum, Udaipur

started by Maharana Udai Singh, the city's founder. The main part of the palace is now preserved as a museum with a large and varied collection. It was established in 1890 and is one of the earliest museums of the state.

The museum includes the Mor Chowk with its beautiful peacocks in mosaics, the favourite Rajasthani bird. The Manak (Ruby) Mahal has glass and porcelain figures while Krishna Vilas has a remarkable collection of miniatures. Bhim Vilas has a boldly striped floor and scenes from the Radha - Krishna stories are painted on the walls. In the Bari Mahal, there is a fine central garden. More paintings can be seen in the Zanana Mahal. The Moti Mahal has beautiful mirror work and the Chini Mahal is covered in ornamental tiles. The museum has the armour of Maharana Pratap and the drums and bugles of the ruler of Mewar, Rana Sanga.

Enter the City Palace through the Ganesh Deori which leads to the Raj Angan or Royal Courtyard.

Entry Fee : Rs. 20.00 for Adults
: Rs. 10.00 for Students
: Rs. 10.00 for Military Personnel
: Rs. 10.00 for Children
: Rs. 50.00 for Still Camera
: Rs. 50.00 for Movie/Video Camera
Timing : 9.30 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
Closed : Sunday



Bhartiya Lok Kala Museum, Udaipur

GOVERNMENT MUSEUM

The Government Museum of Udaipur was originally located in Gulab Bagh and was called the Victoria Hall Museum. It has now been shifted to Karan Vilas Mahal within the precincts of the City Palace.

This museum highlights the culture and heritage of Rajasthan through its extensive collection of excavated items, inscriptions, sculptures, paintings and handicrafts.

The **inscriptions** exhibited at the museum range from those of 2nd century B.C. to 17th century A.D. The antiquities of the **plastic art** of Mewar add to the attraction. The sculpture gallery, spread over a big hall, contain some unique and valuable specimens - **Indriya Matrika** from Jagat (5th - 6th century A.D.); **Kumari Matrika**

from Kumbhalgarh; **Shiva head** from Kalyanpur; **Jain Kuber** from Bansi (8th century A.D.). Inscriptions exhibited at the museum date back to as early as 200 B.C. The most remarkable collection is that of more than nine thousand **miniature paintings** of Mewar school from the period of Maharana Jagat Singh (1628 - 1652 A.D.) to Maharana Swaroop Singh (1842 - 1861 A.D.). It has a Natural History section called the Children Gallery which has models of animals like tiger, deer etc. The museum also has a collection of colourful Mewari turbans.

Entry Fee	: Rs. 3.00 for Adults
	: Rs. 1.00 for Students
	: Monday free
Timing	: 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M.
Closed	: Friday and gazetted holidays.



Bhartiya Lok Kala Museum, Udaipur



Tribal Museum, Shilpgram

masks, musical instruments, paintings and the high point of the exhibits - puppets.

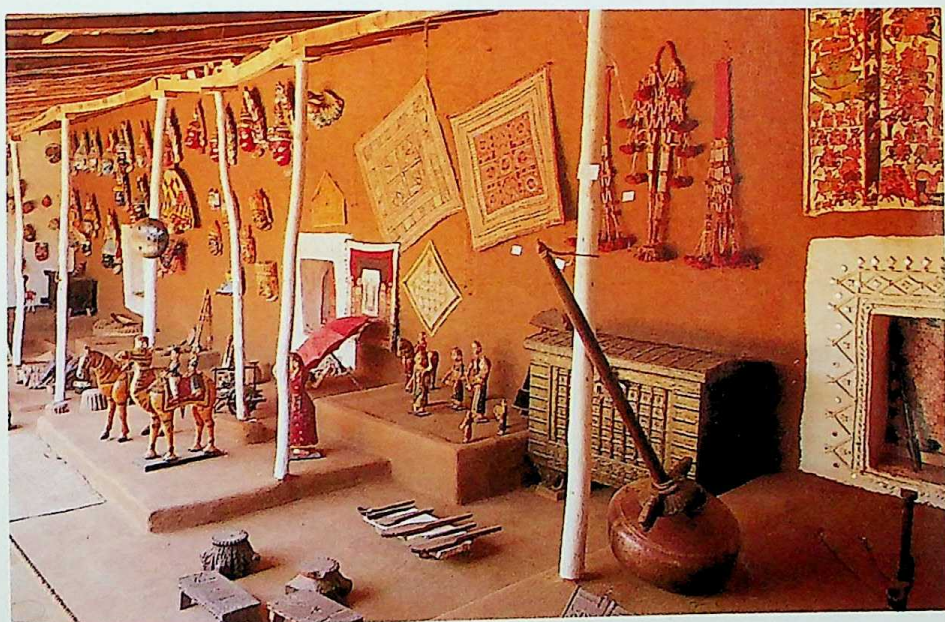
Entry Fee	: Rs. 10.00 for Adults
	: Rs. 5.00 for Students
	: Rs. 50.00 Still Camera
	: Rs. 50.00 for Video Camera
Timing	: 9.00 A.M. to 6.00 P.M.
Evening Show	: 6.00 P.M. to 7.00 P.M.
Entry Fee	: Rs. 30.00 for Adults
Closed	: Open on all days except the day following Holi.

BHARTIYA LOK KALA MUSEUM

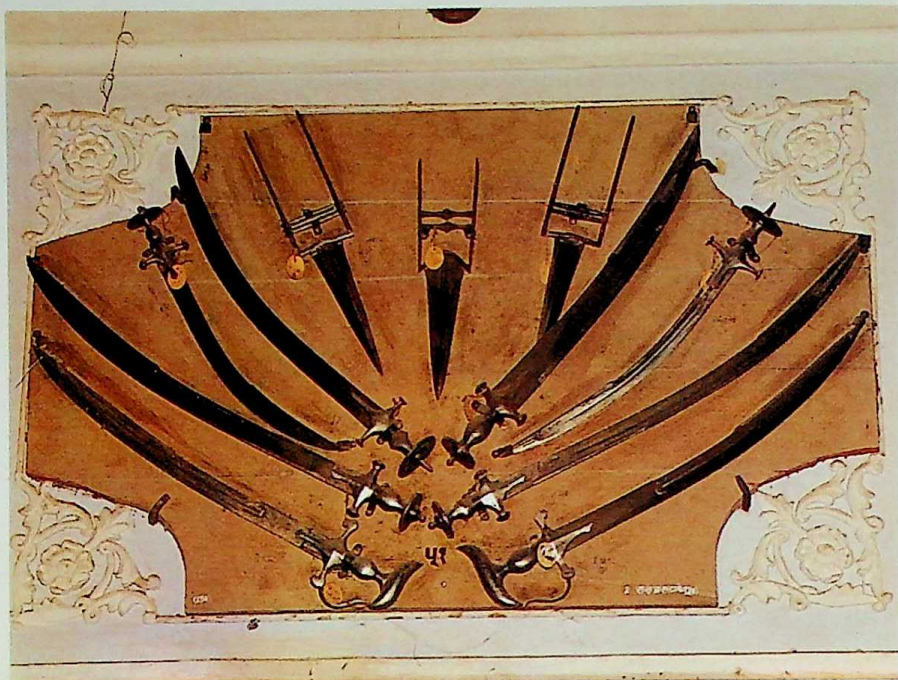
The interesting collection exhibited by this small museum and foundation for the preservation of folk arts includes dresses, dolls,

SHILP GRAM

It is located on Fateh Sagar, 6 kms. from the City Palace. A village has been created with 26 replica huts. This museum has a wide collection of folk art and it also gives a glimpse of the tribal life of Rajasthan.



Shilpgram



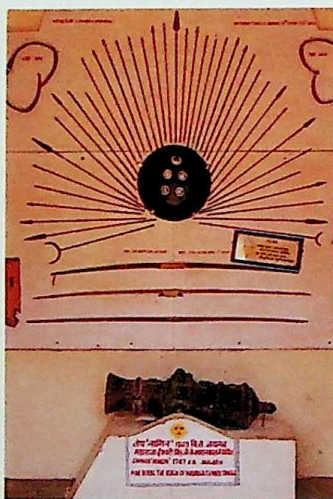
Govt. Museum, Alwar

TRAVEL INFORMATION

HOW TO GET TO RAJASTHAN

AIR : Jaipur, Jodhpur and Udaipur lie on the Indian Airlines route that links Delhi to Bombay.

RAIL : Most of Rajasthan is accessible by a network of rail services. An excellent connection to all the metropolitan cities is available from Jaipur. There are many super fast trains running on the broad-gauge now. Other places too are linked by super fast passenger and express trains. Since rail journeys are usually long because of the distance involved, it is advisable to carry light snacks and water bottles as most stations enroute do not serve much by way of food.



Weaponry, Jaigarh Fort

Rajasthan State Roadway coaches link most of the tourist places and business centres in and around the state. Chauffeur-driven air conditioned cars can be hired through the State Tourist Office and other approved operators.

Some important road distances from Jaipur are: Agra 240 kms, Delhi 261 kms, Jodhpur 332 kms, Ajmer 132 kms, Nathdwara 355 kms, Alwar 142 kms, Bikaner 321 kms, Jaisalmer 654 kms and Bharatpur 176 kms.

What to wear

Woollens during winter and cottons in summer months.

Project Coordinated by Rakesh Srivastava, Anil Chaplot, Raghubir Singh & Monica Lather.
Designed and Produced for Department of Tourism, Art and Culture, Govt. of Rajasthan by Chiranjiv Advertising.
Text : Dr. Suraj "Ziddi" Text Editing Dr. Asok K. Das. Pix : Sumahendra, Sundeeep, Subhash Bhargava, Raj Chauhan
Cover pix : Glass work in Aam Khas, Juna Mahal, Dungarpur.
Back Pix : Icon of Goddess Kali, Shri Bangar Government Museum, Pali

While we have tried to make this a useful publication for the visitor, some of the factual information is liable to change. Tourists are advised to consult their Travel Agents or the nearest Government of India/Government of Rajasthan Tourist Office for up-to-date information.

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Tel. 0291-45083/44010

UDAIPUR
(Udaipur Division)
Regional Tourist Office
Fateh Memorial, Surajpol
Tel. 0294-411535

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11, Neptune Towers, Opp. Nehru
Bridge, Ashram Road
Tel. 079-420925 Fax: 079-465048

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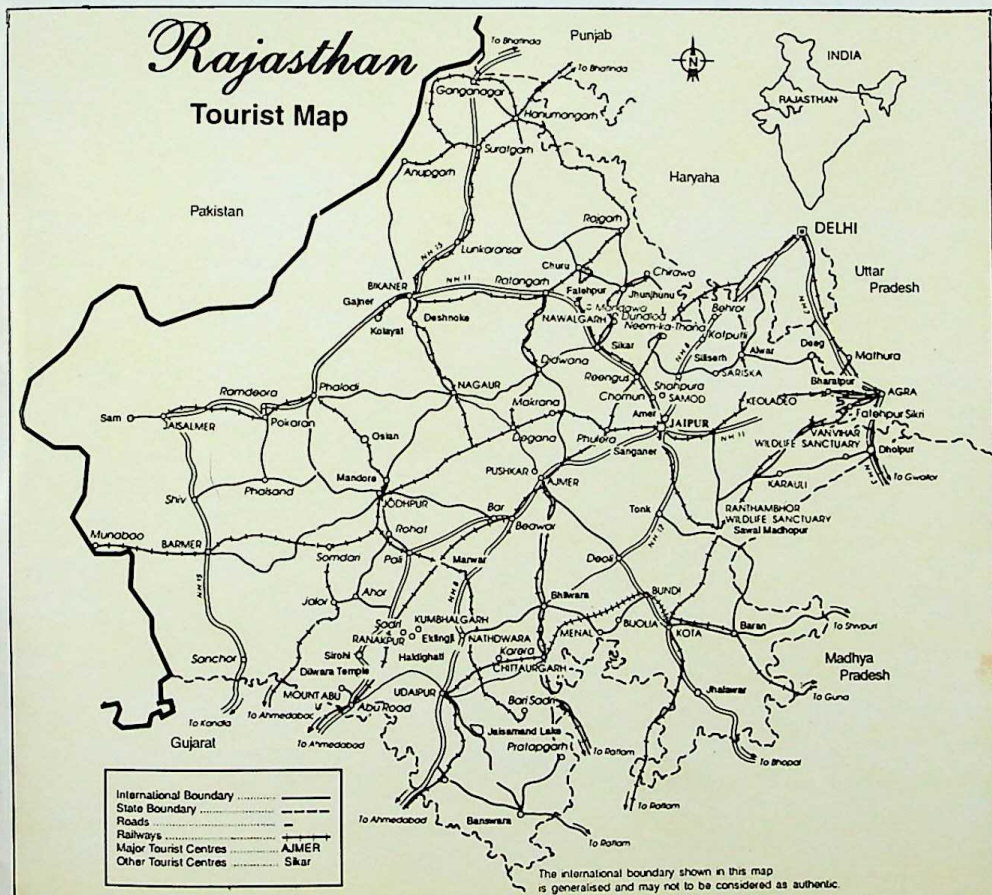
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RAJASTHAN TOURISM